



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

**Executive Order 2007-17**

**WHEREAS**, effective communication between emergency first responders, emergency management personnel and other emergency service providers is critical for federal, state and local governments during an emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Federal Communication Commission ("FCC") has provided for the creation of a Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee ("SIEC") within each state to administer public safety communication interoperability resources; and

**WHEREAS**, oversight for providing policy level direction related to planning, designing and implementing guidelines, best practices and standard approaches to address North Dakota's public safety communications interoperability issues is necessary in order to ensure a cooperative and effective system of communication.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John Hoeven, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of North Dakota, do hereby establish the North Dakota Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee ("NDSIEC") to be composed of representatives from each state agency, division, or responder group as set forth below:

- Division of Homeland Security
- Division of State Radio
- North Dakota Highway Patrol
- North Dakota Nation Guard
- North Dakota Department of Transportation
- North Dakota Sheriff's Association
- North Dakota Emergency Mangers Association
- North Dakota Fire Chiefs Association
- North Dakota EMS Association
- North Dakota 911 Association

The Interoperability Executive Committee shall be chaired by the Director of the Department of Emergency Services and vice-chaired by the Director of the Division of State Radio. The Committee shall work to foster collaboration among stakeholders at the state and federal level, which also include tribal interests. The following shall be the priorities for the Committee:

- Coordinate and manage use of all state-designated and state-licensed radio frequencies used for public safety and emergency communications and serve as the point of contact with the Federal Communications Commission on matters relating to allocation, use, and licensing of radio spectrum. These actions will require the completion of the Frequency Management Plan.
- Seek support, including possible federal or other funding, for state-sponsored wireless communications systems.
- Develop recommendations for legislation that may be required to promote interoperability of state wireless communications systems.
- Foster cooperation and coordination among public safety and emergency response organizations.
- Work with all wireless communications user groups and associations to ensure interoperability among all public safety and emergency response wireless communications systems. These actions will require the completion of a Standard Signal Operating Instructions ("SSOI") for all public safety radio users in the state.

The Committee shall, as required, establish sub-committees and/or working groups to assist with:

- Technical knowledge or research needed for decision making.
- Identification of technologies that could be used by the state of North Dakota to promote interoperable communications.
- Development of a frequency use plan that will promote spectrum efficiencies.
- Identification of sustainable funding sources.
- Assistance to state and local jurisdiction in finding funding solutions for their interoperability projects.

This order is issued upon the following bases and for the following reasons:

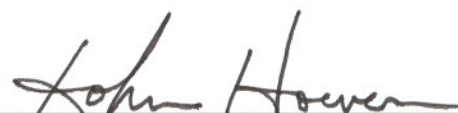
The Governor is vested with the executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution.

An Interoperability Executive Committee is needed to coordinate and prioritize communication requirements in the state and its actions and recommendations will greatly enhance the likelihood of federal support for interoperable communication requirements in the state.

An Interoperability Executive Committee is needed to keep the agencies and public of North Dakota informed with respect to communication requirements to ensure the rapid and effective response to any emergency situation.

This executive order will continue until modified or rescinded.

Executed at Bismarck, North Dakota this 6 of November, 2007

  
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John Hoeven  
Governor

ATTEST:

  
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Secretary of State

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Deputy